

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-05 EB-12 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 FEA-02 INT-08 DRC-01 EUR-25 /161 W

----- 003890

R 031500Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3155

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBULA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, BY, IT, UG

SUBJ: ITALIAN AMB VIEW ON UGANDA

REF: BUJUMBURA 0604

1. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR UGANDA (ALSO ACCREDITED RWANDA AND BURUNDI) FALASCHI TOOK SAME LINE IN KIGALI AS HE APPARENTLY DID IN BURUNDI (REFTEL) BUT WITH PERHAPS MORE AMPLIFICATION. FALASCHI WAXED AT SOME LENGTH ON THEME USG HAD MADE SERIOUS AND UNNECESSARY MISTAKE IN PULLING OUT OF UGANDA THUS LEAVING CENTRAL AND EAST AFRICA STRATEGICALLY EXPOSED TO SOVIETS. HE OPINED US CITIZENS HAD BEEN IN NO DANGER IN UGANDA AND THAT US EMBASSY REPS BY THEIR PUBLIC IRREVERENCE HAD GOADED AMIN INTO SOME OF HIS ACTIONS. HE VIEWED PRESENT UGANDAN SITUATION AS CALM AND HOPED USG WOULD RESPOND FAVORABLY TO AMIN'S FEELERS FOR RESUED EMB PRESENCE. I TOOK LINE HIS ASSESSMENT NOT SUPPORTED BY FACTS AS WE
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UNDERSTOOD THEM AND THAT ABSENCE OF US EMBASSY IN KAMPALA

NEED NOT DETRACT OUR NATO ALLIES SUCH AS ITALY FROM DIPLOMATICALLY COUNTERING SOVIET THREAT. HE RESPONDED HE WAS DOING SO "WITH ALL MY MIGHT".

2. COMMENT: ITALIAN AMB'S COMMENTS ARE MORE OR LESS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER RECENT REPORTS (SUCH AS INDIAN AMB IN KIGALI MEMCON DATED MAY 15, 1974) THAT (A) SOME FOREIGN MISSIONS IN KAMPALA SORELY MISS PROTECTION PREVIOUSLY AFFORDED BY US EMBASSY SERVING AS LIGHTNING ROD FOR AMIN'S WHIMS, AND (B) AMIN ALSO USING THIRD-COUNTRY REPS TO SPREAD WORD IN AREA THAT HE IS READY FOR CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH USG.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMB HAS BEEN INFORMED UK CHARGE IN UGANDA HENNESSEY (ALSO ACCREDITED RWANDA) WILL VISIT KIGALI OCT 18-20. SHOULD DEPT/NAIROBI HAVE ANY PARTICULAR QUESTIONS ON UGANDA DEVELOPMENTS, WE WILL BE PLEASED TO POSE THEM.
FRITTS

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Message Attributes

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